Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur

6660. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur has identified the areas of application of basic gunning materials for melting furnaces and likewise materials for ladles etc, in order to increase production output and to reduce the cost per tonne of steel;

(b) whether such materials are indegenously available or are imported;

(c) whether the machine and equipment for application of such above materials are also available within the country or are imported;

(d) whether it has been determined as to what extent the application of basic gunnitting materials or so has reduced the cost per tonne of steel and allied products; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir. ASP is using Basic Gunning Mass in Electric Arc Furnaces to increase productivity. Gunning Mass is not being used in Ladles.

(b) The materials are available within the country.

(c) Gunning Machines are imported, as indigenous machines are not available.

(d) and (e) The application of Basic Gunning Mass has increased the life of Electric Are Furnaces bottom. This has resulted in improved productivity of the furnace and has given an approximate saving of Rs. 100 per metric tonne of liquid steel.

Tender of 3rd Sinter Plant of Bhilai Steel Plant

6661. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the recent Tender of 3rd Sinter Plant of Bhilai Steel Plant, patent of a particular foreign Company in one item (Diprail Circular Cooler) has been made obligatory, while it was only an option in the Tender Notice, due to which Heavy Engg. Corporation, Ranchi has been disqualified to quote, paving way for the foreign Company and its licencees of that patent to bag the contract;

(b) whether the project report of this plant was prepared based on design and technology of exactly same size plant built by HEC for V.S.P. and whether in October, 1993 Industry Ministry approached Steel Ministry to award this contract to HEC backed by the above Foreign Company on negotiated basis;

(c) whether the estimated cost, (when the proposal was moved to PIB to award the same to HEC) is much less than present estimate (when all contestants, including Foreign Companies have tied up with Indian private parties); and

(d) if so, the reasons for reverting back to the old proposal of ordering on HEC as requested by Ministry of Industry on negotiated basis which guarantees the same technical specifications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir. Circular Technology being a proven and established technology in modern sinter plants all over the world, SAIL has decided to adopt it and the tender documents for the III Sinter Plant at Bhilai stipulated the Cooler specification based on circular cooling technology. The tenderers are free to obtain this technology from the owner or its licensees.